

## Message Text

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63

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 NIC-01 DRC-01 /131 W

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R 201802Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1657

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 19886

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: VN, FR

SUBJECT: DRV INTEREST IN NEW ADMINISTRATION'S VIETNAM  
POLICY

1. PROMINENT SVN EXILE FIGURE, HO THONG MINH, TOLD EMBOFF AUGUST 20 THAT DRV EMBASSY'S LEDINH NHAR HAD INVITED HIM TO DINNER ALONE ON AUGUST 14 TO DISCUSS VIETNAM SITUATION IN LIGHT OF CHANGE IN U.S. ADMINISTRATION. NHAN WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN MINH'S VIEWS OF POSSIBILITY OF USG'S NOW ADOPTING POSITION OF LESS SUPPORT FOR THIEU. MINH SAID HE TOLD NHAN THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAD NOT BEEN A "DOVE", AND DRV SHOULD NOT COUNT ON A LACK OF U.S. RESPONSE IF DRV LAUNCHED MAJOR MILITARY MOVE. PRESIDENT FORD COULD BE EXPECTED TO REMAIN FIRM IN SUPPORT OF GVN. MINH SAID DRV WOULD WELL BE ADVISED TO USE CHANGE OF U.S. ADMINISTRATION TO MAKE CALL FOR FURTHER US/DRV CONTACTS TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF PARIS AGREEMENTS. MINH SAID HE ALSO ADVISED A MORE SUPPLE COMMUNIST POLITICAL PROGRAM FOR SOUTH VIETNAM INCLUDING DRV AND PRG SUPPORT FOR A TRULY INDEPENDENT "THIRD FORCE" NOT JUST A POLITICAL MOVEMENT INDIRECTLY DOMINATED BY COMMUNISTS.

2. MINH SAID HE HAD PRIVATE CONVERSATION A FEW DAYS  
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LATER WITH PHAN NHAN OF PRG PERMANENT MISSION. PHAN

NHAN WAS ALSO INTERESTED IN POSSIBLE CHANGES IN U.S. POLICY AS RESULT OF CHANGE OF ADMINISTRATION. WHEN QUERIED BY MINH ABOUT POSSIBLE PRG DECISION TO RETURN TO POLICY OF REVOLUTIONARY WARFARE, PHAN NHAN SAID PRG WISHED ONLY "CORRECT" IMPLEMENTATION OF PARIS AGREEMENTS AND NO LONGER CONSIDERED RETURN TO REVOLUTIONARY WARFARE A FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVE. MINH SAID THAT PHAN NHAN SAID NOTHING WHICH WOULD INDICATE PRG'S DEFINITION OF "CORRECT" IMPLEMENTATION OF PARIS AGREEMENTS MEANT ANY-- OR MISINTERPRETATION -- OF PARIS AGREEMENTS WHICH THEY HAVE PUSHED TO DATE.

3. COMMENT: MINH APPEARED SOMEWHAT FLATTERED THAT HE WAS CONSIDERED BY COMMUNISTS TO BE A USEFUL INTERPRETER OF U.S. DEVELOPMENTS. HE THOUGHT IT SIGNIFICANT THAT DRV AT LEAST ASKED ABOUT PROSPECTS UNDER NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION, BUT AGREED THAT IMMEDIATE DRV PROPAGANDA ATTACKS ON NEW PRESIDENT DID NOT INDICATE DRV WAS VERY OPENMINDED.  
STONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 20 AUG 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Subject:** DRV INTEREST IN NEW ADMINISTRATION'S VIETNAM POLICY  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PINT, VN, FR  
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